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## Volume 1 - February 1, 1991

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"Volume 1 - February 1, 1991" (1991). *What on Earth*. 8.

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# WHAT ON EARTH...



Environmental and Wildlife Club Volume 1 February 1, 1991

## MESSAGE FROM DR. DORSETT Faculty Advisor

Everybody talks about the environment. A few are improving it.

Student, faculty, and staff at PC have the opportunity to save Planet Earth. In small ways. Through individual efforts. Which add up.

The Environmental and Wildlife Club takes an active approach. Participants can clean the Blackstone Canal and convert it into a park. Or they can expand the recycling program here on campus. Or teach grade-schoolers about whales. Or help Gloucester Land Trust catalogue wild and endangered species.

All these projects are in progress, and more. You can join, and you can make a difference.

But perhaps you're just too busy. You'd love to help, but there's no time...

Then at least be aware, and do those things that don't take any time:

--Turn off the lights when you don't need them.

--Turn down the thermostat when you leave the room, and put on a sweater if you're chilled. (Sheep discovered effective insulation long before America discovered oil.)

--Walk, don't drive. Or ride a bike, don't drive. Or ride the bus, don't drive.

--Shop sensitively. Reuse shopping bags. Buy bulk, and avoid plastic-styrofoam glitz packaging.

--Recycle cans and bottles and paper and oil and freon.

RECYCLE THIS!!!

## PUTTING THE CRUNCH ON DEFORESTATION Beth Nadeau

Each minute 117 acres of rainforest are destroyed so that large companies can make a profit. Rainforests do not have to be destroyed to make money. Rather, the fruits, nuts, and resins can be extracted from the rainforests and used. As a consumer, buying Ben and Jerry's "Rainforest Crunch" ice cream would dramatically help prevent tropical deforestation. "Rainforest Crunch", which is now sold in the US, contains hand-picked Brazilian and cashew nuts. From the rainforests westerners can also produce Zambian honey and Brazil nut hair conditioner. Campaigners want to set aside extractive reserves to utilize the land for these purposes without destroying the rainforests.

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## RUINING THE REEFS Dorian Reiser

Every day we can see the effects of the damage we do to our environment. The smog, the dying trees, the disappearance of animals from the forests. But what about what we can't see? The seas make up a great portion of the Earth and pollution, sewage, and toxic waste dumping increases the deaths of coral reefs in the seas. The damage is not yet as visible, but it is every bit as crucial to the Earth.

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## A NOTE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

During the spring semester of the 1989-1990 academic year Providence College found itself fostering a new organization, the Environmental and Wildlife Club. Finally, after two seasons of hard work, it needs no more fostering. The Providence College Environmental and Wildlife Club is off to a roaring start.

As the founder, I am very excited and pleased by the response the club has received from the entire college community. I am so glad to finally be able to officially welcome all of you to take part in the many activities we have planned. Those of you who have attended any of the past meetings are probably already aware of our goals. But for those who have not yet heard about us, I'll take this chance to tell you about the many facets of the club and what we hope to do.

Our main goal is to provide members of the

Providence College community with opportunities for "hands on" experience in what we as individuals can do to preserve our environment in all its aspects. We have many committees working to serve this purpose, some of which involve volunteer services for animals, education in land preservation, and activity for and against current environmental bills. Another major committee is responsible for this newsletter. The two committee heads, Dorian Reiser and Brian Simard, along with their committee, have been working very hard to get this first issue out to all of you. Dory and Brian and all of the other committee heads and officers deserve many thanks. And it goes without saying that we could not have done any of this without the help of Dr. Dorsett, our faculty advisor.

Once again, I would like to thank all of you for your interest and I welcome any questions or new ideas.

Jeanne M. Handy

## ENVIRONMENTAL & WILDLIFE

### CLUB OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE HEADS

PRESIDENT: Jeanne M. Handy  
VICE-PRESIDENT: Tom Rowley  
TREASURER: Beth-ann Dietz  
SECRETARY: Alyson Molloy  
CAMPUS RECYCLING:  
Jen Seaver & Heather Dunn  
POLITICS: Deirdre Carty  
Helene Marsh  
AUDOBON FIELD CLEANING:  
Jennifer Frese  
AUDOBON EDUCATION:  
Maureen Galvin  
VOLUNTEER SERVICE FOR ANIMALS:  
Karen Leahy  
GLOSTER FIELD CLEANING:  
Anthony Najamy  
RI PARKS ASSOCIATION PROJECT:  
Murray Whitehead  
EARTH DAY COORDINATOR:  
Ray Capes  
NEWSLETTER: Dorian Peiser  
& Brian Simard

"If you saved up all the unwanted paper you'll receive in the mail this year, you'd have the equivalent of 1-1/2 trees. And so would each of your neighbors. And that adds up to about 100 million trees every year."

### -50 Simple Things You Can Do

#### To Save The Earth

To stop your name from being given to most large mailing list companies write to:  
Mail Preference Service  
Direct Marketing Association  
11 West 42nd Street  
P O Box 3861  
New York, NY 10163-3861  
RECYCLE THE JUNK MAIL YOU  
DO GET!

## LETTER FROM THE EDITORS

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters, Seas. And God saw that it was good. And so God said, "Let Us make man in Our image." Male and female He created them. And God said, "Fill the earth and have dominion over every living thing." And it was so. And God saw that everything He had made was very good.

Genesis, Chapter 1

Is everything still very good? We think it is indisputable that the earth has its share of problems. This newsletter is to educate you on these problems, to make you think about these problems, and to guide you on how to do your part on remedying these problems.

Nothing like this has yet to appear on the Providence College campus. We hope you welcome us because we welcome you, your opinions, and your ideas. We encourage participation, comments, and responses from students, faculty, and administration.

Due to our low budget, we do not have sufficient funds to print this on recycled paper. So please do your part and recycle this in the appropriate bins around campus. Remember: every ton of recycled paper saves approximately 17 trees and paper made up 41% of the volume of landfills in 1989.

Lastly, the opinions expressed in these articles do not express the opinions of the group as a whole. The writers are individuals with individual opinions and

values. Their's, as well as yours, are welcome.

Peace,

Dorian Reiser  
and  
Brian Simard

### Ruining the Reefs continued from p.1

Today's reefs are equivalent to the rainforests, and likewise, they are threatened. Of the 109 countries where reefs occur, 93 are facing destruction. Deforestation is one of the problems. This creates soil run-off and this smothers and consequently suffocates reefs. Global warming, too, is a contributor to reef destruction. This causes reef bleaching. The corals appear bleached when they expel the tiny plant cells that live within them. These cells remove carbon dioxide and provide nutrients for corals. The global warming epidemic could destroy all coral reefs in a matter of decades. These reefs have flourished for over five hundred million years, through ice ages and drifting continents. Will they survive us?

The loss of coral reefs is as disastrous for the world as the loss of rainforests. Reefs protect land from erosion. They are vital regulators of the Earth's atmosphere. Without coral reefs we will lose barriers which protect islands and coastlines from the sea. We will lose sanctuaries for many fish which provide food for the growing population of the world. The health of coral reefs is an indicator of the health of our oceans. We need to treat them with more care.

Compiled from Challenge of the Seas, produced by Ted Danson.

The rainforests are a 3000 mile wide band around the equator and each year an area greater than the state of Washington is destroyed. Rainforests once covered 14% of the Earth, but now they only cover 6%. If their destruction continues, by the year 2000, all obtainable forests of West Africa, Southeast Asia, and Latin America will be gone. Rainforests are important because they contain about half of the world's species. Ninety percent of all non-human primates, two-thirds of all known plants, forty percent of birds, and eighty percent of all insects are only found in the rainforests. Rainforests are also important for regional and global climate control. They also produce useful products such as oil, medicines and drugs used for surgery and to treat cancer and heart disease, and fruits, as mentioned earlier.

Commercial logging accounts for 25% of all deforestation. 12.5 million acres are destroyed by logging. Cattle ranching is also very destructive to rainforests. Pastures are cleared so that beef can be produced for the region and is also exported to make pet food and fast food hamburgers. Furthermore, people try to cultivate the infertile soil of the rainforests. When they produce a small crop they must clear more land and try again. Lastly, governments fund large scale development projects, such as roads and hydroelectric dams to overcome debts and gain capital.

The consequences of deforestation are that unique species of plants and animals become extinct. The valuable resources of the nation are depleted. When the forests are cleared by burning, carbon dioxide is emitted. About 15-30% of the world's carbon dioxide emissions is released annually through the burning of the rainforest. The build-

up of carbon dioxide and other gases produces the greenhouse effect. Global warming can cause sea levels to rise and coastal cities to be flooded. Deforestation disrupts ecological cycles and causes extreme droughts and floods. Fish breeding areas and marine habitats are destroyed. When soil is exposed to heavy tropical rain, it erodes and loses its nutrients. The erosion and siltation of rivers ruins drinking and irrigation water. Lastly, with the destruction of rainforests, natives lose their homes and cultures.

There is no simple solution to this problem. Some suggestions have been to establish parks and extractive reserves where forest dwellers would protect the land. This would create a collection of forest products. Political and economic reforms are needed. A European tax on tropical timber has been discussed. Consumer campaigns are also needed. A boycott campaign against Burger King resulted in the discontinued use of rainforest beef for its hamburgers. Consumers can make a difference. Therefore, support products such as "Rainforest Crunch" ice cream and help stop the destruction of the Earth's rainforests.

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About 75% of the water we use in our homes is used in the bathroom.

DON'T: Leave the water on while brushing your teeth, shaving, etc.

3-5 gallons of water go down the drain each minute the water is left on!

DON'T: Leave showers and faucets dripping.

The smallest drip from a leaky faucet can waste more than 50 gallons of water a day!

50 Simple Things You Can Do To Save The Earth

Things You Can Do To HelpSave Rainforests

1. Contact your US representatives and senators and ask them to strongly support legislation protecting tropical rainforests.
2. Don't buy tropical wood products.
3. Write to the President of the World Bank and urge him to stop funding large-scale development projects that would cause further deforestation:  
Barber J. Conable  
President  
World Bank  
1818 H Street NW  
Washington, DC 20433
4. Don't eat fast food hamburgers or processed beef products.
5. Become an informed consumer of rainforest products. Choose ice cream and cosmetics that use nuts, fruits, and oils sustainably produced in rainforests.

Compiled from New Scientist July, 1990 and Scientific American April, 1990.

THE HORRORS BEHIND DISSECTION

Suzanne R. Gaudrault

Remember that high school biology class where the highlight of the year was the dissection of a fetal pig? At first it seemed repulsive, but when the knife was actually cutting, it was learned that there was no blood in the fetus. That seemed to justify the idea of poking around in a once living creature. However, where did the school get these pigs and how were they killed?

The Carolina Biological Supply Company, CBSC, is the nation's largest supply house. It is currently under investigation by

environmentalists for cruelty to animals. Rats, pigs, cats, and dogs are a few of the animals slaughtered at this company. They are crammed into tiny cages where there is barely enough room to breathe. The ones who freeze in fright or fight back are jabbed with sticks until they squeeze in.

The animals are then stuffed into gas chambers where they whimper and cry to their deaths. Actually, the lucky ones die and are hooked up to formaldehyde tubes which suck the blood out. The unlucky ones are hooked up alive. Workers at CBSC refuse to say where they get their animals yet they agree that if authorities knew, the supply house would be shut down.

One dying cat was snuck out of CBSC and brought to a veterinarian. The cat had a temperature of 104 and was suffering from head trauma and malnutrition. He also had parasites and was missing teeth. He died six days later.

These horror stories will continue unless action is taken against CBSC. One way is to stop dissection in schools and colleges. There are other means of learning the organs of the body including computer programs, charts, models, and books. CBSC should be aware that their cruelty is not going unnoticed. The phone number is 1-800-334-5534. The address is R.O. Flagg, Vice President, CBSC, 2700 York Road, Burlington, NC 27215. Please call or write CBSC and stop the terrible abuse of these poor innocent creatures.

Compiled by PETA News  
Sept/Oct 1990.

## GIVE HELL TO L'OREAL

Dorian Reiser

Tsk, tsk, tsk. What else can we say? Follow a good example, Estee Lauder did. They put a permanent ban on animal testing forever! This ban extends to all Clinique, Prescriptives, and Aramis products as well.

PETA, People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, launched a campaign against L'Oreal, a major animal testing cosmetic company, in January of 1990. L'Oreal responded by announcing that it has eliminated 95% of its tests on animals and now uses "only" rats and mice.

In February, activists sent L'Oreal black valentines with the message, "Have a heart for animals: stop animal tests!" Also, a 1300 square-foot banner was hung from the Eiffel Tower saying, "L'Oreal=Torture Animale". In March, stickers saying "Warning: Cruelly Tested on Animals" began appearing on their products in stores across the US. In April, L'Oreal offices were showered with hundreds of barf bags with complaints inside. There was also an International Day Against L'Oreal. Activists protested in the US, England, Scotland, West Germany, Italy, Spain, Canada, and France. May was "Fax for Animals Rights" month. Participants such as Howard Jones, Julie Brown, the B-52's, Saturday Night Live's Kevin Nealon and Phil Hartman, and actors River Phoenix and Mink Stole faxed letters to L'Oreal demanding an end to testing on animals.

The campaign is still going strong, as it will until L'Oreal meets the demands. However, L'Oreal is not alone here. Animal Rights activists are none too pleased with Gillette either. In August, activists planted an evergreen tree outside of the house of Gillette CEO, Colman Mockler, in memory of all of the animals destroyed in Gillette laboratories. Due to efforts made by students at Brandeis University in Massachusetts and Trinity University in Texas, all Gillette products were removed from their campus stores. People like us can make a difference, think about that.

The following is a list of Gillette and L'Oreal products. If you feel compelled, your support would be appreciated in the boycott.

|                          |                         |                   |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|
| <u>GILLETTE</u>          |                         | <u>L'OREAL:</u>   |
| <u>Hair Care:</u>        | <u>Deoderants:</u>      | Lancome           |
| White Rain               | Soft & Dri              | Ambre Solaire     |
| Mink Difference          | Right Guard             | Nilosome          |
| The Dry Look             | Dry Idea                | Gloria Vanderbilt |
| Tame                     | Imagine Body Spray      | Drakkar Noir      |
| Toni Home Perms          |                         | Studio            |
| Silkience                | <u>Office Supplies:</u> | Preference        |
|                          | Liquid Paper            | Biotherm          |
| <u>Shaving Products:</u> | PaperMate               | Ralph Lauren      |
| Atra                     | Flair                   | Guy Laroche       |
| Gillette Swivel          |                         | Helena Rubenstein |
| Face Saver               | <u>Skin Products:</u>   | Cacharel          |
| Sesnor                   | Aapri                   | Anais Anais       |
| Trac II                  | Jafra                   | Giorgio Armani    |
| Good News                |                         | Paloma Picasso    |
| Gillette Foamy           |                         |                   |
| Shaving Cream            |                         |                   |

Compiled from: PETA News  
Sept/Oct 1990 & Nov/Dec 1990

## TRY IT, YOU MAY LIKE IT

Alyssa Mont

Many people today are starting to change their eating habits. I myself became a vegetarian over two years ago. And now since there is so much concern placed on what goes into one's body, it is no wonder that more people are turning to a meatless diet. Don't get me wrong, I am not asking that each person who reads this become a vegetarian but instead to try some "new" ways of eating. By reducing or cutting out meat in your diet, you not only rid your body of cholesterol and fat, but you also decrease the unnecessary amount of animals killed for consumption. So before you head to McDonalds for that juicy burger, think of these few pointers:

(1) TRY new foods. Exploring new restaurants, health and natural food stores or a new recipe can be fun and it breaks the old routine.

(2) Think international. Meatless meals are often found in Ethnic restaurants such as Italian ones which offer a wide variety of pasta vegetable entrees; or Thai and Asian restaurants which usually have hot and spicy tofu meals. In trying out a new place, you may find a new and exciting restaurant to eat at and bring friends to.

(3) Learn to ask. Many of the fast-food chains are able to make things the way you want them even if it is not listed on the menu. Burger King can make a "veggie whopper" which just excludes the meat; or Pizza Hut can make a vegan pizza. All you have to do is ask. Also, take advantage of the salad bars. They are nutritious and usually offer more than the basic salad.

sition easier try simulated "meats". These "meats" made of soy-made into substitute beef patties, frankfurters, bacon, etc., can relieve anxieties about leaving so much cholesterol behind. Try to use these in the beginning stages of the transition, then slowly work you way out of them.

(5) Try this new way of eating with a friend. If you both put your mind to this and attempt new dietary habits, the change will be easier, and more enjoyable. Just remember the less meat you eat, the less animals sacrificed, and the healthier you will be.

Compiled from: "Medicine: In Lay Terms" By Neal D. Barnard, M.D. The Animal's Agenda October 1989.

**TURN IT OFF!**  
Alyson Molloy

Ready? Yeah, Let's Go! Hey we should turn off the lights and radio. Oh, don't worry about it, we don't have to pay for the electricity.

Does this sound familiar? If you live on campus it may. Many college students have the misconception that because they don't get a monthly bill for utilities they shouldn't worry about energy conservation. Well, you should! According to the World Resources Institute, lighting accounts for one-fifth of the electricity consumed in the United States. Therefore, our lighting habits have a significant impact on the Earth. One of the many negative repercussions is that the more electricity we produce the more industrial emissions we generate. These are the same emissions that contribute to problems like acid rain and the greenhouse effect. So the next time you leave your room or dorm, please hit the lights!





PROVIDENCE COLLEGE ENVIRONMENTAL AND WILDLIFE CLUB

COMING EVENTS:

February 12, 1991 (Tuesday) 7:00 pm Moore Hall III  
Debate involving PC faculty: How the US energy policies are a factor in the Gulf War, and how we, as American individuals, can affect the future US foreign policy regarding dependency on foreign oil.

Earth Awareness Week activities including:

April 24, 1991 (Wednesday) 7:30 pm Moore Hall III  
Panel on Careers in the Environment

PLEASE RECYCLE THIS!!!